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Date: April 24, 2007

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Sender: Jung-hua Kuo, Reg. No. 41,918

Re: U.S. Pat. App. No. 10/735,331
Entitled: "Percutaneous Removal of Sentinel Lymph Node Using Contrast Imaging for Identification"
Attorney Docket Number: MNOAP004
Filing Date: December 12, 2003

Pages: 15 (including this facsimile cover page)

To: Patent and Trademark Office

Fax No.: (571) 273-8300

Attached are:

1. IDS (2 pages);
2. Form 1449 (1 page);
3. Copy of European Search Report (4 pages); and
4. Copies of seven (7) cited references.

APR 24 2007

PATENT
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: YAMAMOTO et al.
Application No.: 10/735,331
Confirmation No.: 3792
Title: "Percutaneous Removal of Sentinel Lymph
Node Using Contrast Imaging for
Identification"

Filed: December 12, 2003
Atty. Dkt. No.: MNOAP004
Examiner: Bleibel, Nasseim K
Art Unit: 3737

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Amendment, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, DC 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300 on April 24, 2007.

Signed: 

Jung-hua Kuo

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56 AND 1.97

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Amendment
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The reference(s) listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, copies of which are enclosed, may be material to the examination of the above-identified patent application. These references were cited in a corresponding European application. A copy of the European International Search Report dated March 26, 2007 is enclosed herewith. These references are submitted in compliance with the applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to make these citations official record in this application.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies that the references enclosed herewith were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office less than three months before the filing date of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that no fee is due in conjunction with the filing of this IDS. However, should the Commissioner determine that additional fees are required for filing the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees to our deposit account number 50-1217 (Order No. MNOAP004).

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☒ Statement Under 37 CFR §704(d) Regarding Reduction of Period of Adjustment of Patent Term. Each item of information listed in the attached PTO Form 1449 and/or contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and the communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than 30 days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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Form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)	Application No.:	10/735,331
	Filing Date	December 12, 2003
	Inventor(s):	YAMAMOTO et al.
	Art Unit	3737
	Examiner Name	Bleibel, Nasseim K
Sheet 1 of 1	Atty Docket No.	MNOAP004

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initials	Citation No.	Document No. Number-Kind Code	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Patentee or Applicant	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures
	A	5,496,536	03-05-1996		
	B	6,096,289	08-01-2000		
	C	5,716,595	02-10-1998		
	D	5,814,295	09-29-1998		
	E				
	F				
	G				
	H				
	I				
	J				
	K				
	L				
	M				
	N				

Foreign Patent Documents

Examiner Initials	Citation No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country code-Number-Kind Code	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Patentee or Applicant	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures	Trans- lation ²
	O	WO 00/45855	08-10-2000			
	P	WO 02/088666	11-07-2002			
	Q	WO 99/40837	08-19-1999			
	R					

Other Documents -- Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initials	Citation No. ¹	Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), Title (when appropriate), Title of Item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), Date, Page(s), Volume-Issue Nos., Publisher, City and/or Country where published.	Trans- lation ²
	S		
	T		
	U		
	V		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicants' unique citation designation number (optional).

²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

April 24, 2007